

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for applying a reclosable pouring element comprising a pouring opening, a flange with a threaded ferrule, a closure film and a removable cap to a container having an opening, wherein the container comprises a body, a base and a lid, comprising the steps of:

connecting the reclosable pouring element to the lid of the container having an opening by affixing the flange of the reclosable pouring element to the lid in a liquid-tight fashion;

connecting the lid to the body in a liquid-tight fashion;

connecting the base to the body;

sterilising an interior of the container including the pouring opening;

filling the container with a product through the pouring opening;

closing the container by sealing the closure film onto the reclosable pouring element allowing the pouring opening of the reclosable pouring element to be closed in a liquid-tight fashion; and

applying the cap to the reclosable pouring element,

wherein before sterilising, a section of the closure film is sealed ~~to a~~ thread free area of the threaded ferrule of the reclosable pouring element ~~allowing in such a way that the pouring opening of the reclosable pouring element to remain~~ remains open while sterilising and until filling.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the section of the closure film sealed prior to sterilising is sealed onto the reclosable pouring element after connecting the reclosable pouring element to the lid of the container.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the threaded ferrule includes an unthreaded region and the section of the closure film sealed prior to sterilising is sealed laterally on the unthreaded region of the threaded ferrule.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the container with the reclosable pouring element affixed thereto and the closure film sealed on the reclosable pouring element with the pouring opening still open, further wherein the container is inserted with at least the lid having the reclosable pouring element into a region delimited by side walls serving as a guide for a sterilising means in a direction of the container and encloses tightly or with a small tolerance a circumference of the container in a region of the lid having the reclosable pouring element.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the container with at least the lid having the reclosable pouring element remains in the delimited region during a filling of the container and a liquid-tight sealing of the pouring opening by sealing the closure film on the reclosable pouring element.

17 – 25. (Cancelled)